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METHODOLOGY AND TEACHING

Grundzüge der Physiogeographie. Auf Grund von William Morris Davis' "Physical Geography" neu bearbeitet. Von W. M. Davis und G. Braun. xi and 322 pp. Maps, ills., index. B. G. Teubner, Leipzig, 1911. Mk. 6.60. 8½ x 6.

Here is a good account of Professor Davis' doctrines on the land forms; the geographical cycle in humid, arid and glacial climates. It is not a translation of the Physical Geography. That was somewhat simplified for American high schools and had a good deal of matter in it "to emphasize the human relations." It used technical terms but sparingly, *cuesta* and even *peneplain* occurring only in footnotes. The present work is meant for German gymnasia and early university classes and contains the substance of the lectures on physical geography given at Harvard in the years preceding 1898, set forth in rigorous form with all the equipment of technical terms. There is a glossary of these, in German and English, in which, oddly enough, *cuesta*, *peneplain*, *consequent*, *insequent* and *obsequent* do not occur. There is a good 10-page account of the cycle of erosion, as much new matter on glacial erosion, and a good statement of the cycle in arid climates, while structure, process and stage are heard from. Throughout are found evidences of the thirteen years of active thinking by the author, already published, it is true and often in fuller form, but here first gathered together to form a systematic whole.

Thus the book is larger and fuller than its predecessor when the size of page and fewer illustrations—less than half—are allowed for.

An attempt has been made to adapt the book to Europe in every way. As far as this applies to the illustrative land forms of the general scheme it is not wholly successful, but for application of the principles a good many European examples are cited that are new on this side the water. Braun's translation is excellent, at times distinctly improving the text in directness and simplicity:

Davis, 1898, p. 254
"Revived rivers give a simple explanation of the origin of certain lengthwise and crosswise valleys."

p. 324
Where the temperature is so low that the snowfall of the colder season is greater than the loss by melting in the milder season.

p. 265
Nearly all parts of the land would be covered with a sheet of waste many feet deep, and bare ledges would be almost unknown if it were not for the movement of the waste after it has been loosened.

Davis and Braun, p. 210
"Der Vorgang der Wiederbelebung der Flüsse gibt eine Einfache Erklärung u. s. w."

p. 251
In Gegenden, in denen infolge niedriger Temperatur, die in der kalten Jahreszeit gefallene Schneemenge im Sommer nicht wegschmilzt.

p. 219
Nahezu die ganze feste Erde ist mit einer einige Dezimeter oder mehr tiefen Schuttlage bedeckt, und kahle Flächen bestehen nur da, wo der Schutt so schnell fortgeführt wird, als er sich bildet.

The book will be found indispensable to any German student of physiography who would not neglect contributions so important as these of Professor Davis.

For Germany their value will not be diminished by the severe, almost hostile tone of Passarge's Physiologische Morphologie, which has closely followed it and controverts its principles in detail.

MARK JEFFERSON.